To the Hon.ble the Council & house of Represent.s
of the Colony of Massachusetts. Bay

The Petition of the Committies of Inspection of the Several
Towns of Medfield, Wrentham, Attleborought Dedham,
Medway, Bellingham Hollister Mansfield, Natick Stoughton
Stoughtenham, Sherburn, & Walpole Stumbly Shew.

That the Sd Committies having met together
on the 19 Day of February A D 1777 by Joint Comm.tt at Medfield
Serious Consideration the Present State of the Trade in this Colony
Beg leave to Lay the Same before your Honours, Especially
that
that Part of which more Immediately affects the Necessaries
of Life & those Articles which at this Distressing Day, is becom
of importance in Carrying On the Unnatural Dispute, Between
Great Briton And these Colonys, With Concern We See the
~~Liberty~~ Natural Disposition of mankind to Seek their
own Gain, Whereby almost Every Article is risen Or Rising
to an Extravigant rate & Such Advantages Taken, in those
Commodities which Necessity Renders Scarce, That we may
Truly Say that this Lucrative Disposition, knows No Bounds
And Our Present Currency Every Day Sinking & Rendered of
Less Value, Which in Our Humble Opinion Will Necessarily
involve us in Unhappy Disputes Among Ourselves But
Especially with Our Brethren in the Southern Colonies Whose
interest with Ours is thrown into One Common Cause, it is
with Concern we must Say, that Notwithstanding the Care and
Caution of the Comm.tt of Inspection or any Other Committy
the Price of English Goods, Wool flax Shoe Leather
Grain & Sundrys Other Articles & Especially near the Camps
are Carried Beyond Due Bounds & almost all Other Commodities
in Proportion to their Demands Are following the Committys therefore
are not Able to Affect the Stop of What the Wisdom of the Hon.ble
American Congress fore Saw, & We Apprehend ment to Prevent
Therefore that your Honours would Take this matter into your
Wise Consideration & make Such further Provition as you in
your Wisdom May think Proper, & your Petitioners as in Duty
Bound Shall Ever Pray

By Order of the Joynt Com.tt Elijah Clark Cl.k

Petition of the Comm.rs Met at
Medfield Febry 19 1776

RW 310 MS.Ch.C.1.34